

Having owned a "Tilles Catalogue" for several years and done little with it other than tick off a proportion of the patterns that I hold, I decided to try to be a little more positive with the new one.

Following receipt of the parts issued to date, I therefore gave the matter some thought and eventually decided to use the catalogue as an album, mounting the stamps face up on the back of the pages so that, when I open the binder, I had the stamps on the left-hand page and the illustrations of the patterns on the right.

I was at first a bit disappointed with the thickness, or lack of it, of the leaves but then found that this had its value, in that, on the blank side the patterns the framework of the patterns on the other, showed through slightly which made positioning of the stamps easy.

When the stamp is mounted 'face up', the pattern doesn't of course show up too well and poor copies tend to 'get lost' but the colour and interest provided by the face of the stamp seemed to me to compensate for this.

However, I think that purists, who quite rightly consider the pattern and its quality of major importance, will probably prefer to mount the stamps face down, or perhaps will be self-disciplined enough not to include poor copies at all.

When I had duplication, I tended to keep the earliest stamp but haven't been consistent with this as I have thrown out heavily postmarked items and made a point of trying to include a variety of values and issues on each page.

I may, perhaps later, regret this but do like the present result. Large commemoratives tend to be a problem and I have only included these when I haven't had a standard sized definitive type and intend later to form them, and the large high values, into a separate collection. Other than this, I have had little problem and so far, have been pleased with the outcome.

I have of course found that I have a few patterns that have not been catalogued and will eventually photocopy them and send copies to the Editor for inclusion in future up-dates.

Below is a table showing the number of listed patterns that I have sorted out and mounted so far, compared with the number in the catalogue together with a note of my unlisted items.

| Letter. | Number of patterns<br>in catalogue. | Number held. | Unlisted patterns<br>held. |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| A       | 1055                                | 227          | 13                         |
| B       | 1416                                | 355          | 21                         |
| C       | 1475                                | 418          | 26                         |
| T       | 741                                 | 154          | 11                         |
| U       | 173                                 | 37           | 2                          |
| V       | 143                                 | 37           | 3                          |
| X       | 16                                  | 2            | -                          |
| Y       | 79                                  | 25           | -                          |

(Editor: All replies to this article sent c/o myself will be forwarded to Mr. Ellis).